

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1 (Currently Amended). An ultrasonic probe for insertion into an endocavity of a specimen in order to examine the specimen, comprising:

a holding portion including a first housing portion;

an insertion member configured to move along the first housing portion in a longitudinal direction, the insertion member having at least one end for insertion into the endocavity of the specimen,

wherein said insertion member includes a plurality of projections extending along an outer surface of the insertion member and in the longitudinal direction, said holding portion including a clasp configured to engage and disengage with said plurality of projections, and an area of said holding portion including the clasp also including a first thread profile; and

a fixer configured to move along said holding portion in the longitudinal direction so as to surround the clasp and the plurality of projections, the fixer including a second thread profile, and the fixer being further configured to engage with the area of said holding portion including the first thread profile by coupling the second thread profile with the first thread profile; and

an ultrasonic generator provided at the one end of the insertion member and configured to transmit an ultrasound pulse to the specimen and collect an echo signal resulting from the transmitted ultrasound pulse. [[,]]

~~wherein the holding portion is coupled to the ultrasonic generator so that a position of the ultrasonic generator is adjustable in accordance with an angle of the holding portion.~~

2 (Original). The ultrasonic probe according to claim 1, wherein the insertion member moves through the first housing portion.

3 (Original). The ultrasonic probe according to claim 1, wherein the first housing portion includes an insertion member stopping portion configured to prevent the insertion member from moving through the holding portion.

4 (Currently Amended). The ultrasonic probe according to claim 1, wherein the ~~further comprising a first fixer disposed at the holding portion, the first fixer being configured to keep the insertion member and the holding portion at a predetermined position relative to each other~~ is configured to rotate about the holding portion.

5 (Canceled).

6 (Original). The ultrasonic probe according to claim 1, wherein the insertion member includes a relay member having a second housing portion and an insertion end member having the one end, the relay member being configured to move along the first housing portion, the insertion end member being configured to move along the second housing portion.

7 (Currently Amended). The ultrasonic probe according to claim 6, further comprising ~~a first fixer disposed at the holding portion and a second~~ another fixer disposed at the relay member, ~~the first fixer being configured to keep the relay member and the holding portion at a first predetermined position relative to each other, the second fixer being~~ and configured to keep the insertion end member and the relay member at a second predetermined position

relative to each other.

8 (Original). The ultrasonic probe according to claim 6, wherein the first housing portion includes a relay member stopping portion configured to prevent the relay member from moving through the holding portion, and wherein the second housing portion includes an insertion end member stopping portion configured to prevent the insertion end member from moving through the relay member.

9-10 (Canceled).

11 (Currently Amended). An ultrasound imaging apparatus for obtaining and displaying an ultrasound image, the apparatus comprising:

an ultrasonic probe for insertion into an endocavity of a specimen in order to examine the specimen, including

a holding portion including a first housing portion,

an insertion member configured to move along the first housing portion in a longitudinal direction, the insertion member having at least one end for insertion into the endocavity of the specimen, and

wherein said insertion member includes a plurality of projections extending along an outer surface of the insertion member and in the longitudinal direction, said holding portion including a clasp configured to engage and disengage with said plurality of projections, and an area of said holding portion including the clasp also including a first thread profile.

a fixer configured to move along said holding portion in the longitudinal direction so as to surround the clasp and the plurality of projections, the fixer

including a second thread profile, and the fixer being further configured to engage with the area of said holding portion including the first thread profile by coupling the second thread profile with the first thread profile, and

an ultrasonic generator provided at the one end of the insertion member and configured to transmit an ultrasound pulse to the specimen and collect an echo signal resulting from the transmitted ultrasound pulse; and [[,]]

~~wherein the holding portion is coupled to the ultrasonic generator so that a position of the ultrasonic generator is adjustable in accordance with an angle of the holding member; and~~

a display coupled to the ultrasonic probe and configured to display the ultrasound image based on the echo signal.

12 (Currently Amended). A method of generating an ultrasound image, comprising:
providing a holding portion having a housing portion;
providing an insertion member having a distal end and a proximal end, the distal end having an ultrasonic generator,

wherein said insertion member includes,

a plurality of projections extending along an outer surface of the insertion member and in the longitudinal direction, said holding portion including a clasp configured to engage and disengage with said plurality of projections, and an area of said holding portion including the clasp also including a first thread profile, and

a fixer configured to move along said holding portion in the longitudinal direction so as to surround the clasp and the plurality of projections, the fixer including a second thread profile, and the fixer being further configured to engage

with the area of said holding portion including the first thread profile by coupling the second thread profile with the first thread profile;

adjusting a position of the ultrasonic generator, which is coupled to the holding portion, ~~in accordance with an angle of the holding portion;~~

~~slidably coupling the insertion member to the housing portion of the holding portion;~~

inserting the distal end of the insertion member into an endocavity of a specimen; and
generating the ultrasound image.

13 (Canceled).